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# MONTHLY TRUCK TONNAGE REPORT

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE FROM RESEARCH AND ECONOMICS DIVISION
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## MAY TRUCK TONNAGE INDEX DECREASES

The seasonally adjusted monthly index of intercity truck tonnage decreased 0.8 points (0.5 percent) during May 1981, the American Trucking Associations announced today. The adjusted index was 151.7p for the month of May, compared to 152.5r for the month of April 1981. The index was 10 points (or 7.1 percent) higher than it was in May 1980. The final adjusted index for tonnage during the year 1967 is taken as 100 to start the chain link index.

These findings are based on the ATA Research and Statistical Services Department's monthly survey of Class I and II motor carriers of general freight with monthly responses representing more than one-third of the tonnage moved. The month-to-month percent change link has been adjusted to remove the normal seasonal influences and variations dues to the different number of business days each month.

The unadjusted tonnage data for the United States and for each region for the latest month (p) are shown on the reverse side. Based upon this unadjusted data, May tonnage decreased 2.9 percent compared to revised April and increased 4.1 percent compared to May of last year.

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p - preliminary r - revised f - final

PLEASE NOTE: These tonnage index figures are based on month-to-month percentage change figures. This chain link is then adjusted seasonally and for trading days according to formulates supplied by the Department of Commerce. For more information on the techniques involved and the use of this index, see the ATA Department of Economics' "Motor Carrier Special Report" of September 1977.

ALSO NOTE: The regional data on the reverse side reflect overall results based on the domicile of reporting carriers and not the actual tonnage moved by region.

UNADJUSTED May 1981 TRUCK TONNAGE BY REGION

| Region | # of Cos. | May 1981p | May 1980f | Percent Change 5/81p over 5/80f | April 1981r | Percent Change 5/81p over 4/81r |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| New England | 19 | 234,417 | 257,748 | -9.1 | 260,964 | -10.2 |
| Middle Atlantic | 45 | 1,145,463 | 1,171,305 | -2.2 | 1,206,230 | - 5.0 |
| Central | 55 | 1,625,439 | 1,485,447 | +9.4 | 1,665,296 | - 2.4 |
| Southern | 48 | 2,086,131 | 1,951,207 | +6.9 | 2,095,333 | - 0.4 |
| Northwestern | 10 | 316,594 | 312,489 | +1.3 | 332,997 | - 4.9 |
| Midwestern | 21 | 389,363 | 401,613 | -3.1 | 406,027 | - 4.1 |
| Southwestern | 13 | 763,054 | 781,031 | -2.3 | 803,736 | - 5.1 |
| Rocky Mountain | 12 | 272,371 | 282,291 | -3.5 | 278,260 | - 2.1 |
| Pacific | 14 | 551,944 | 605,058 | -8.8 | 555,654 | - 0.7 |
| TOTAL | 237 | 7,384,776 | 7,248,189 | +1.9 | 7,604,497 | - 2.9 |

INDEX COMPARISONS

| | May 1981 | April 1981 | March 1981 | May 1980 | Monthly % Change 4/81 / 3/81 | Monthly % Change 5/81 / 4/81 | Yearly % Change |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Tonnage Index (adjusted)[1] | 151.7p | 152.5r | 150.8f | 141.7f | +1.1 | -0.5 | + 7.1 |
| Tonnage Index (unadjusted) | 148.4p | 152.8r | 166.2f | 142.5f | -8.1 | -2.9 | + 4.1 |
| Industrial Production Index[2] (Total) | 152.8 | 152.3 | 152.2 | 144.0 | +0.1 | +0.3 | + 6.1 |
| Manufacturers (total) | 152.9 | 152.3 | 151.7 | 143.4 | +0.4 | +0.4 | + 6.6 |
| Non-durable | 166.6 | 166.1 | 161.5 | 158.0 | +2.9 | +0.3 | + 5.4 |
| Durable | 143.5 | 142.7 | 142.2 | 133.3 | +0.4 | +0.6 | + 7.7 |
| Retail Store Sales Index[2] (adjusted) | 351.8 | 351.2 | 357.1 | 311.2 | -1.7 | +0.2 | +13.1 |
| Producer Price Index[3] (unadjusted) | 268.9 | 267.7 | 265.3 | 243.4 | +0.9 | +0.5 | +10.5 |
| Consumer Price Index[4] (unadjusted) | 269.0 | 266.8 | 265.1 | 244.9 | +0.6 | +0.8 | + 9.8 |

p - preliminary r - revised f - final

[1]Adjusted seasonally and for trading days.

[2]Seasonally adjusted.

[3]Finished goods (formerly Wholesale Price Index)

[4]Goods and Services.